

# the organized farmer

Vol. 25

October 12, 1964, Edmonton, Alberta

No. 24

## Canadian Economy Booms While Disaster Strikes Prairie Crops

By Paul Babey

Rain, rain and more rain. Crops extensively damaged by a lack of moisture earlier in the season are now being ruined by the overabundance of moisture.

Rains have brought on second growth in most areas. Grain is sprouting in the swath. Second cut hay, if harvested at all will be badly bleached. No matter how you size up the situation, it means severe losses to the farmer.

Meanwhile farm operating costs continue to move upward. The bureau of statistics reports that in April the price index of commodities and services used by farmers stood at 282.4. In April 1963 the index was 275.2. Including living costs the index moved even higher, to 309.9 in April of this year from a 301.0 a year earlier.

The weather we cannot do too much about, except with crop insurance which would at least prevent disaster. I am not too enthusiastic about the returns farmers will receive this year—a brief review will illustrate this conclusively.

Pork prices have averaged just above support levels and at times dipped below them. The market provides less dollars than last year. Low grades of grain, and excessive harvesting costs, spell diminishing returns for the grain farmer. Turkey producers are not happy because American surpluses threaten to break Canadian prices. It is a depressing picture.

On the brighter side is the report in the Financial Post of September 19th on "double your money" stocks. Tobacco, chemical, and mining industries are well in the lead, showing positive price changes from 48 to 70%.

Why is agriculture in such a different position? Economists would say that inelastic demand and excess supply keep prices from approaching parity with cost prices. If we accept this as a criteria for the future of agriculture it is little wonder that there has been an accelerated drive for farm efficiency. Nor am I amazed that credit limits are continually being increased to permit larger amounts of capital to go into agriculture.

Any government is interested in providing an abundance of cheap food for the consumer. Canada's agricultural legislation was previously designed for this.

The point I want to make is this: is it good business to make more credit available and so encourage the farmer to go deeper into debt in order that we keep him operating? No industry can stay in business if returns do not exceed costs plus a small margin of profit. Is the farmer ever going to be in the position of repaying his debt with interest if he continues to be caught in the price squeeze? Unless the realizable income will enable the payment of loans, interest and operating costs, there is little hope for recovery of the debt.

I discussed this situation with a retired practical farmer who survived the dirty thirties. His thinking was this: "If a farmer can get far enough in debt as some of us did then, you are actually respected. You have reached a point of no return; many debts were cancelled, because you could

not get blood out of a stone. If you do not borrow—you will not owe any money, but neither will you own very much."

Is history going to repeat itself? The choice in any event is up to the farmer. I have become convinced that efficiency alone is not the answer because efficiency too has limits. The one area of agricultural weakness is in the field of marketing. Perhaps the reason some of our industrial stocks are so promising is that these groups control their own marketing. I doubt whether agriculture can experience any measure of prosperity until income is increased to adequately cover increasing costs.

The decision facing farmers is "who should do our marketing"—if we are satisfied to let "John do it" then we must accept what "John does out" (after profit and costs are deducted). If this is not good enough, then the onus falls on ourselves. If we produce, should we not market? Until the farmer has some control of the price he sells for, his path of destiny is narrow and steep. No matter where we start, a farm organization is a primary need. Your FUA organization has carried out

an extensive educational program on marketing of hogs through a producer-controlled board.

We are in the process of suggesting amendments to the agricultural products marketing act which we hope the provincial government will accept. When this is done we expect to continue our program until hog producers are acquainted with the facts, so that they may vote intelligently on the plebiscite.

We are also receiving many requests for speakers, workshops, and meetings on the proposal for one farm organization. We feel that the county organization could be a "modern tool" which farm people could use to make effective decisions. In any case, overcoming agriculture's bleak future can only be done collectively. Agriculture and the people engaged in it will have to think in terms of the industry as a whole rather than specialized groups concerned with their own particular interests. The place to start is through an organization. Can we count on you to support us on Membership Day November 9th.

A costs analysis for the FUA reveals the following: a member contributes \$6.00 annually, plus

(Continued on page 3)

## CO-OP WEEK

By Bill Harper

Most FUA members are familiar with the little blue Policy Handbook, which is printed each year following the annual convention. A copy of this book goes out to every local secretary, and in it can be found the official policy of the FUA covering every matter which is dealt with at the convention.

The first object which appears on page 1, is "(a) to advance, on all possible occasions, the interests of farmers and farmers' co-operative organizations."

This is Co-op Week, all across Canada, and it is important that that we stop and consider what is involved in the FUA policy on co-operatives. Co-operatives have been, and are to an increased degree, the most important effort in which Alberta farmers have ever been involved. City and town residents in this province, and, in fact, the farmers themselves, often fail to realize that co-operatives are very big business indeed, in every corner of Alberta.

Just stop and think about your own little town. There is almost certain to be a Wheat Pool elevator there, because there are about 540 of them in the province. In addition, there is very likely to be a U.G.G. elevator, because there are 347 of them in Alberta. The chances are that these two co-ops are also No. 1 and No. 2 in the amount of grain they handle at each shipping point.

Going further in the grain business, we find that there are over 50 co-op seed cleaning plants in Alberta. These are co-operative ventures between the local farmers, the municipalities or counties, and the provincial government. FUA locals have been among the organizations which have helped, in many areas, to establish such plants.

Then let's go into the the livestock business. We have the Alberta Livestock Co-op, which is sales agent for 31 local shipping co-ops, and this represents about one third of their business. The two thirds is made up of direct shipments from individual farmers who believe in selling their livestock co-operatively.

There are a number of smaller, more localized livestock co-ops here and there throughout the province—for example the Community Auction Sales, down in southwestern Alberta. This organization gets into the million dollar bracket with the livestock it sells for its members.

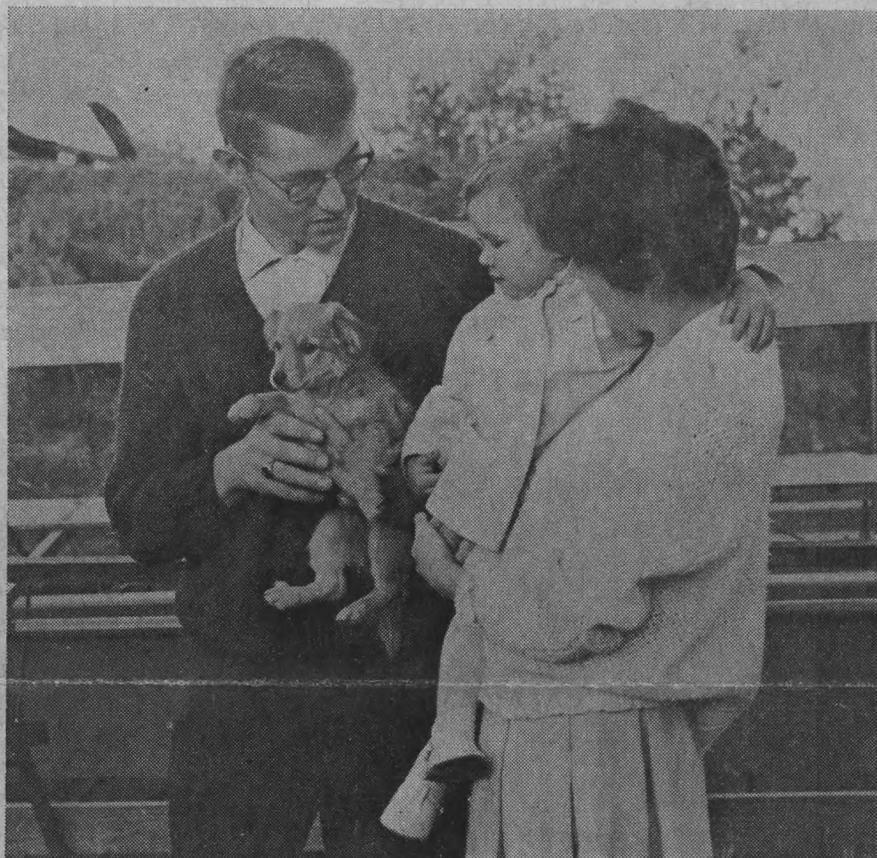
Then there is the poultry business. Alberta Poultry Marketers dominate this field in this province. They have about 40 egg grading stations, as well as their huge killing and eviscerating plants, and the broiler farm west of Edmonton.

Then there are the two Dairy Pools. Northern Alberta and Central Alberta, which pretty well dominate the dairy business. They too, were built by farmers, to serve themselves.

Turning to the supply co-operatives, we find that Alberta farmers have not neglected this field. The first one which comes to mind is the UFA Co-op. This organization handles many millions of dollars in petroleum products, through their 165 bulk plants, and in farm supplies of almost every kind through their five farm supply depots, and they are now building a number of sub-depots, in order to serve their members better.

Then we have Canadian Co-operative Implements Ltd., with their dozen depots all across Alberta. They handle a full line of machinery, much of which they

### It's made to order for you !!



## F.U.A. LIFE MEMBERSHIP

You benefit from F.U.A. Services and have a strong organization working for you.

NO MORE WORRY ABOUT ANNUAL DUES AND . . .

## YOU SAVE MONEY

manufacture in their own plant in Winnipeg. After a few years of very heavy sledding during the 1950's this farmer-owned co-operative is well over the top, and is making remarkable progress—another triumph for the farmers who believes in doing things for themselves.

Finally, we come to Federated Co-ops, which supplies about 100 local co-op stores all across Alberta. While the largest of these stores are now located in cities, they were, without exception, started some years ago by farm people.

I mention these co-operative achievements, accomplished by Al-

berta farmers because this week, October 11-17 is Co-op Week across Canada. This is the week when retail co-ops put on their annual sale, and when hundreds of Co-op programs and banquets are held, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Perhaps it is a time when we farmers should pause and take a look at what we have accomplished by working together. There are over 1300 co-operative outlets in Alberta, aside from Credit Unions and REA's. They do well over \$300 million in business each year. That is a self-help program to be proud of, and one which we should encourage and support in every way possible.



# RESOLUTIONS FOR THE CONVENTION

## Constitutional Amendments

### 1. ELECTION OF F.U.A. EXECUTIVE

RESOLVED that we delete (c) section 8 on page 17 of the constitution. In section (a) 10 on page 18, delete "and three executive members" and add at the end "and three executive members who will be elected by the Provincial Board of Directors."

District 13 Convention

## Organizational

### 2. FARM ORGANIZATION

RESOLVED that the F.U.A. Board be requested to attempt the implementation of the main recommendations in the Platt Report on Farm Organization:

1. That the Farmers' Union and the A.F.A. join to form one provincial farm organization.
2. That the structure of the new organization be based on the county organization.

District 3 Convention

### 3. WOMEN'S SECTION IN ANY NEW FARM ORGANIZATION

RESOLVED that the Women's Section be included in any new farm organization structure, in an official capacity as a Women's Section, and

FURTHER that the Junior Section be included in an official capacity as a Junior Section.

District 8 & 10 Convention

### 4. MEMBERSHIP FEE

RESOLVED that the membership fee be reduced to \$5.00.

District 9 Convention

### 5. MUNICIPAL COLLECTION DUES

RESOLVED that the municipal collection of dues be discontinued.

F.U.A. Board

### 6. COMPULSORY F.U.A. MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED that F.U.A. membership be on a compulsory basis, and FURTHER that dues be levied as follows: four dollars per first quarter section, \$2.00 per second quarter section, \$1.00 per each additional quarter section, to a maximum of \$10.00 per unit.

District 3 Convention

### 7. LICENSES FOR FARMERS

RESOLVED that every person registered as a farmer be licensed as such, and part of the license fee be their F.U.A. dues.

District 5 Convention

### 8. BEAUTIFY COUNTRYSIDE

RESOLVED that the F.U.A. promote a program to "beautify our country side," by disposing of trash and dry trees.

District 9 Convention

### 9. RESEARCH PROGRAM

RESOLVED that the N.F.U. develop a research program on national agricultural problems and that definite action be taken on the findings of these studies.

N.F.U. Joint Board Meeting  
F.U.A. Executive

## Provincial

### 10. LAND PURCHASE

RESOLVED that owners of land within the "Green Area" who occupy and derive their living from such land be allowed to purchase adjoining or closely adjacent land, where the following conditions prevail:

1. The present acreage owned by the operator is not great enough to create a thoroughly economic unit.
2. The purchase of sufficient additional acres may reasonably be expected to convert such unit into a substantial project which would benefit the operator and simultaneously be an asset to the community and the province.

District 9 Convention

### 11. LEVY ON ALL BEVERAGE BOTTLES

RESOLVED that a 10c deposit be levied on all beverage bottles in Alberta, and

FURTHER that this deposit be returned to anyone returning an empty bottle at an authorized collecting point.

District 8 & 9 Convention

### 12. HUTTERITE COLONIES

RESOLVED that this convention request the Communal Properties Board to refuse any further applications by the Hutterite Brethren in settled areas, until their level of education is raised to enable them to assimilate into our society and to provide to that society their share of skilled, semi-skilled and professional people according to their ability.

### 13. COMMUNAL PROPERTY CONTROL BOARD

RESOLVED that the Communal Property Control Board be abolished, and

FURTHER that all laws pertaining to the Hutterites be rescinded and that the Hutterites be required to live as the balance of Alberta citizens do, subject to the same laws, having special regard to integrated rural education, land tenure and succession duties and income tax.

District 12 Convention

### 14. FARMERS' DAY

RESOLVED that we ask the government to declare a civic holiday for both urban and country schools on Farmers' Day.

District 6 Convention

### 15. RURAL TELEPHONE LINES

RESOLVED that the F.U.A. approach the Alberta Government about taking over the rural telephone system.

District 7 Convention

### 16. COLORED MARGARINE

RESOLVED that margarine be colored no shade of yellow.

District 4 Convention

### 17. SEPARATE FUEL PUMPS ON FUEL TANKWAGONS

RESOLVED that all farm fuel delivery trucks be required by law to have separate pumps and hoses for the discharge of gasoline and diesel fuels.

District 1 Convention

### 18. EARLIER GRAVEL OF ROADS

RESOLVED that the Department of Highways be asked to do gravelling of roads early in the season, so that the gravel may be well packed into road surface before winter and will not be thrown into the ditch by snow-plows during the winter.

District 1 Convention

### 19. DRAINAGE

RESOLVED that we ask the Provincial Government to put in the necessary legislation to look after drainage in the St. Mary's River Development.

District 13 Convention

## Federal

### 20. FARM MACHINERY

RESOLVED that we ask the Federal Government to set up an inquiry into the price of farm machinery and repairs under the Combines Investigation Act.

District 6 Convention

### 21. LOTTERIES

RESOLVED that we ask the Federal and Provincial Governments to make a survey with a view to permitting lotteries; and

FURTHER that all net profits from such pools go to medical research and hospital care.

District 5 Convention

### 22. PROFITEERING IN SUGAR

RESOLVED that we protest the action taken by the Courts against the three major sugar companies for illegal profiteering in sugar, and

FURTHER that we petition the Federal Government to make sure that fines levied against illegal profiteering be ample to discourage future profiteering.

District 8 Convention

### 23. ADHERENCE TO BRITISH NORTH-AMERICA ACT

RESOLVED that the Governnt of Canada adhere to the British North-America Act as far as English and French language use is concerned.

District 1 Convention

## Grain, Seeds and Special Crops Policy

PRESENT POLICY — see 1964 Policy Handbook — page 8

Suggested Changes and Additions to Policy Recommended by Committee:

1. That the Provincial and Federal Governments establish a marketing board, with a pooling system similar to the Canadian Wheat Board, for the marketing of grass, clover and legume heeds.

District 2 Convention

### Changes to policy suggested by resolutions

2. That federal authorities ensure that sufficient grain terminal facilities are provided at the Port of Vancouver, so that delays in loading ships will not occur in the future.

District 7 Convention

3. That grading standards, particularly with regard to moisture content, be not changed.

Districts 2 & 8 Conventions

4. That the units in the initial quota for grain delivery be raised from 300 bushels to 500 bushels of wheat with a proportional increase in oats, barley and rye.

District 6 Convention

5. That all seed exhibits at seed fairs be identified with the name of the producer and the legal description of the land on which the seed was grown.

District 2 Convention

Grain, Seeds & Special Crops Committee

—J. Muza

—C. Versluys

—K. Marklund

## Livestock

PRESENT POLICY — see 1964 Policy Handbook — page 11

Suggeste Changes and Additions to Policy Recommended by Committee:

1. That we continue our educational program in an attempt to bring the facts on a hog marketing board to all hog producers so that they may be in a position to make an intelligent decision at the time of the plebiscite.

F.U.A. Board

2. WHEREAS the Minister of Agriculture, the Farmers' Union of Alberta, and the Alberta Federation of Agriculture joint hog marketing committee recognize that we have a hog marketing problem, and

WHEREAS the minister wishes to revise the Alberta Marketing Act and

WHEREAS the request for a hog Marketing Com THEREFORE BE port for a hog and competitive and the comm both bodies wo marketing act; steps to hold a mind the expre

### Changes to policy

3. That farmers ra vote on the pr

3. That when ball hog marketing scheme be enc

### PRESENT PO

1. That the Federa which they cou develop and fir marginal lands, tural products, chase of machi

2. That we are o interest rates of THAT other far

## Car Insura

### PRESENT POL

Suggested Changes by Committee:

1. That anyone ap proof of insuran unsatisfied judg

### 24. EXCHANGE V

RESOLVED tha tion of Agriculture Rural High School to promote a bette culture.

### 25. RESIDENCE FE

RESOLVED tha gate the cost of bo to lower rates to \$6

### 26. STANDARDIZ

RESOLVED tha ing the advisability

### 27. LANGUAGE IN

RESOLVED tha to supply language language to any ser sible citizens.

### 28. AGRICULTURA

WHEREAS the Fairview, Olds and Y Course to have grac those with less than

THEREFORE BE so that any farm bo lowed to enroll in A

FURTHER real grade 9 education t every effort be mad level.



committee has agreed to temporarily withdraw its marketing plebiscite pending studies by the Alberta committee, and Revisions of the Act;  
**IT RESOLVED** that this meeting: (1) restate its sup- marketing board as a medium for building a stable market; (2) endorse the action of the government committee with regard to the above decisions, and that work toward the early establishment of a satisfactory (3) the committee, in its wisdom, take necessary plebiscite at the earliest practical time, keeping in mind the demands of producers.

A.F.A. - F.U.A. Hog Marketing Committee

#### suggested by resolutions

Raising weaner and feeder hogs should be eligible to oppose hog marketing plebiscite.

District 10 Convention

ots are mailed to registered hog producers for the plebiscite that a copy of the proposed hog marketing plebiscite with each ballot.

District 6 Convention

Livestock Committee

—Harry Gordon

—Roy Getson

—Olaf Mehlen

## Farm Credit Policy

**POLICY** — see 1964 Policy Handbook — page 8

Government establish a Farm Credit Bank through which to consolidate all present farm credit legislation, finance farm rehabilitation, finance programs for sub- extend long term credit for the export of agricul- grant farm improvement loans, loans for the pur- chase of additional land, etc.

Districts 4 & 6 Conventions

opposed to the Farm Credit Corporation increasing its loans to farmers, and

farm organizations protest such an increase.

District 6 Convention

Farm Credit Committee

—R. J. Page

—D. Sharon

—P. Ference

—W. Smart

## Finance & Highway Safety Policy

**POLICY** — see 1964 Policy Handbook — page 22

and Additions to Policy Recommended

plying for an automobile license who can produce a license, not be charged the \$1.00 which goes into the license fund.

District 5 Convention

Highway Safety Committee

—Mrs. F. Hallum

—Paul Babey

## F.W.U.A. RESOLUTIONS

### Education

#### VISITS OF FRENCH AND ENGLISH STUDENTS

we ask that a committee of the Canadian Federation be set up to arrange for an exchange of Senior Students during the summer holidays in an effort to increase understanding between the French and English students.

District 12 Convention

#### FEES AT UNIVERSITY

we petition the Government of Alberta to investigate and room for university students, with the aim of reducing fees to \$10.00 per month or as near cost as possible.

District 13 Convention

#### TEACHING TEACHERS' SALARIES

the Provincial Government make a study regarding the standardizing of teachers' salaries in Alberta.

District 10 Convention

#### INSTRUCTION RECORDS

the Alberta Department of Education be requested to purchase instruction phonograph records at half price in any case of a student upon recommendation of two respon-

District 3 Convention

#### AL SCHOOLS

Alberta Agricultural and Vocational Colleges at Vermilion require boys enrolling in the Agriculture course to be at least 17 years old, and students in grade 9 to be at least 20 years old;

**IT RESOLVED** that these requirements be waived, and that showing a sincere desire for the training be all that is required in agriculture, and

izing that this will allow students with less than a high school education to take the agriculture course at the colleges, that the subject matter on a very practical

District 2 Convention

F.W.U.A. Board

## Health and Welfare

### 29. F.W.U.A. ADOPT FOSTER CHILD

**RESOLVED** that the F.W.U.A. be asked to consider the possibility of adopting a needy child in another country (one of the developing countries) under the Foster Parents plan or some similar plan to be financed by contributions from the locals throughout the province.

District 9 Convention

### 30. MEDICAL BILLS

**RESOLVED** that we request the Provincial Government to institute legislation requiring doctors to present on itemized statement of service and cost to the patient instead of simply an overall statement of professional fees. This to be a duplicate of bill sent to the insurance company.

District 14 Convention

### 31. SALES TAX ON DRUGS AND MEDICINES

**RESOLVED** that we request the Federal Government to abolish the sales tax on drugs and medicines.

Note: Government policy on sales tax is that everything is covered by an 11 per cent tax, unless otherwise specifically exempted, while others are not. This is dealt with by an extremely complicated set of regulations, orders-in-council, ministerial orders, etc. However, according to informed sources this resolution is a valid one.

District 12 Convention

## Agriculture and Co-operation

### 32. DISTRICT HOME ECONOMISTS

**RESOLVED** that the number of District Home Economists be increased so that there are approximate the number of District Agriculturalists.

District 13 F.W.U.A. Conference

## Citizenship

### 33. SUCCESSION DUTIES

**RESOLVED** that we ask the Government to increase the basic exemption to \$75,000.00 on succession duties.

District 8 Convention

## Miscellaneous

### 34. F.W.U.A. CONVENTION

**RESOLVED** that the F.W.U.A. continue to hold their convention as a separate section, at the time of the F.U.A. Annual Convention.

District 11 Convention

### 35. PRICE OF FLOUR

**RESOLVED** that the milling companies reduce the amount spent on give-away contests and advertising, thus enabling them to reduce the price of flour.

District 8 Convention

# Edmonton Co-op Enters A new Phase Of Co-op Leadership

By E. M. Daly, Public Relations Officer, Edmonton Co-op

From actual survey of the membership, the Edmonton Co-op today is actively serving and influencing a wide area in North Central Alberta. There is scarcely a town, village or community, within a radius of 60 miles from Edmonton in which there is not a member of the Edmonton Co-op.

To be of wider, more complete service to our members is now the major program ahead of us. This wider service will also mean adding to our membership, and spreading wider the co-operative way of life in all avenues — in consumer purchasing, in marketing, in processing, and in financial and other services. In fact, not only the Edmonton Co-op, as a consumer service will benefit, but every co-operative organization within the area will benefit even more so.

Expansion programs cost money; adding services means new buildings, means adding staff, means purchasing supplies for inventory.

When it is all added up, according to present estimates for some of the projects planned, Edmonton Co-op will need a minimum of \$500,000 — co-op dollars. This money will be sought through a debenture issue, with two types of debentures available in denominations of \$50 and more. The first is a 10-year, 6% debenture, and the second is a 15-year, 6½% debenture. The books are now open for subscription.

EITHER DEBENTURE IS A

**SOUND INVESTMENT** according to today's financial market. The Edmonton Co-op is not asking for donations, or for financial aid. The position of the Edmonton Co-op at the present time is a very strong position. The interest on the debentures presently issued by the Edmonton Co-op will be paid this month. The Sinking Fund is up to date.

This is strictly a business matter. If you have funds to invest, as a good co-operator, or at least one who believes in the philosophy

## FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA

9934 - 106 St., Edmonton, Alta.

Phone 424-0375

After 5:00 p.m. 489-6955

### the organized farmer

EDITOR — PAUL BABEY

Assistant Editor — Ken Nelson

Subscriptions — \$1.00 a year

Authorized Second Class Mail,

Post Office Department, Ottawa,

and for payment of postage in cash

FARMERS' UNION of ALBERTA

9934 - 106 St., F.U.A. Bldg.,

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Printed by Co-op Press Ltd., Edmonton, Alta.

of the co-operative, then you have an opportunity to put your money to work at a good rate of interest.

Edmonton Co-op will emerge during the next several years as one of the strongest co-operative influences in Alberta and Western Canada. The future is here and we invite you to be a part of the greater co-operative program of getting together, investing together, and serving or providing our needs together.

### PRAIRIE CROPS . . .

(Continued from page 1)

one evening a month for meetings — some time to read The Organized Farmer, plus developing and contributing ideas which are vital to the organization. On the debit side a member enjoys the following — a financial saving on services — insurance, legal, income tax, surface rights, etc.

**Legislation** (investigation and representation at both federal and provincial levels) e.g. (crop insurance, bankruptcy act).

**Social Benefits**—opportunity to work with other people.

**Education and self-development** — (F.U. & C.D.A.) an opportunity to develop oneself in order to be a more effective citizen.

**Co-operation** — satisfaction of contributing jointly with others.

Adding up the balance sheet it does not cost to belong to the FUA—it pays.

Our tour to the Orient has begun and we will be in China at the time this publication is printed. Thirty-two people are taking part. Mrs. Johnston and myself are taking advantage of the tickets provided by CPA for tour leaders.

We will leave Hong Kong, October 18th and visit also in the Philippines and the island of Formosa. The executive suggested that Japan also be visited. I have arranged to discuss the merits or otherwise of Canadian wheat being shipped to Japan. A visit will be paid to the farms and related agricultural equipment industry. Also a tour of rape-processing plants to discuss rape quality and prices in relation to other vegetable and oil crops.

The tour is now known internationally, and a good deal of credit and favorable publicity is being derived by the FUA. We will give you a detailed report at the convention, at meetings, and through the Organized Farmer. One small worry, as we embark for China, is the support for the Junior Education Fund. Returns to date have been slow, we wonder—did you forget?

One successful drive this year will take care of our debts and the present building program. Our camp is proving to be a worthwhile venture. Give support to the Juniors, they need it and deserve it.

No report would be complete without making some reference to the flag debate. It seems rather a costly pastime to spend days of parliamentary debate only to decide to refer to a committee. In a democracy we have the right to disagree and while this is not the most efficient way of getting a job done, history has proven that this is the most acceptable.

Do not get me wrong. I am not knocking any political party. Canada should have a distinctive flag, but as a farmer facing a rather bleak future, it is not going to matter to me whether a maple leaf or a fleur de lis flies over my head. It would be most unfortunate if farmers are depressed to the point that they are no longer willing to look up to notice a new flag.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Petroleum Division Supervisor required for large Co-operative. Duties to include supervising oil agencies, auditing, and attending farm meetings. Preference given to applicant with high school education, previous supervisory experience, knowledge of farm organizations and co-operatives. Reply giving age, education, experience, marital status and salary expected. Enclose recent photo. P.O. Box 1022, Calgary



START THINKING

## No "Santa Claus" In Fly-By-Night Operation

One of the members of the FUA, who lives near Edmonton, dropped into the office the other day for a chat about farm problems. He mentioned a person who is well known to the police, and is quite familiar with the inside of some of our gaols, because the Courts have taken a dim view of some of his activities in the past.

He is out of gaol at the moment, and just recently started one of these periodic movements to help farmers get rich at the expense of the government. It seems that he has hit on the idea that, while titles to land in Alberta read "reserving unto her Majesty all mines and minerals," oil is not a mineral, in his opinion, and therefore he is going to set up an organization to sue the government and make them return all their oil royalties to the farmers who have oil wells on their land. If you have oil wells on your land, and want to get in on this wonderful plan, just give this man \$100.00 and you've got it made. I have no idea how many suckers this rascal caught, but I expect he caught a few.

My FUA visitor is a person who takes his duties as a citizen very seriously. He called up the proper authorities as soon as he heard of this project, and as a result I believe that another racket has been stopped.

### MANY SUCH CASES

Almost any farmer can remember such cases. Someone promises to get supplies for farmers at wholesale prices, everything from tractors to pictures for the living room walls — but the membership fee is \$100.00. Someone else has a very special deal on cooking sets, or sets of dishes, or sewing machines, or encyclopedias; but you don't see the goods until you have paid up in full. Someone decides that we need a new farm organization and they collect a lot of membership fees, hold a few meetings, and the whole thing folds up. Hundreds of Alberta farmers have parted with thousands of dollars to support such fly-by-night schemes.

We all make mistakes, but the important thing is that when we do make a mistake, we should try to learn from it. There are two

lessons to be learned from join-have mentioned. The first one is that it is not easy to do a lot of these things, such as getting supplies at bargain prices, or forcing the government to take some action, just because a group of people think they should.

There are farm organizations of long standing, such as the many farm co-operatives, and the FUA, who have been looking into ideas such as these for many years. Whenever they see a chance of getting some legislation, or setting up some purchasing or marketing service which can be of help to farmers, they do everything possible to start the ball rolling. They have a certain amount of experience and resources, gathered together over many years, and if something can be done for farmers, these organ-

ing the kind of organization I izations will try to do it, because it helps their members, and is a feather in the cap of the organization.

It is pretty doubtful, therefore, that a new organization, with inexperienced people, almost no resources, and with no solid background of public support, can, in a year or two, accomplish something that other organizations have been unable to do after many years of effort.

If all the effort and money which has been put into fly-by-night organizations, had been used to give support to the well established farm organizations, a great deal more could have been done for the farmer in the past. But people, even farmers, can't quite give up the idea that there is a Santa Claus.

The smart operator who makes promises which any sensible person knows he cannot keep, can always find a few who will trust him, instead of the organizations which have a reputation to maintain, and which have given good service over the years.

## Visitor Here From New Zealand

"Any betterment of civilization Mrs. N. Schroeder, MBE, of Rai Valley, New Zealand, who was guest of the FWUA and Alberta Women's Institute at a tea in the Old Timers' Cabin in Edmonton July 23.

Mrs. Schroeder is Associated Country Women of the World Area Vice President for the South Pacific, mother of three, and grandmother of one. She is returning to her home from London, where she was made a Member of the British Empire at a Buckingham Palace investiture. This award was in recognition of many years of service to country women of the area.

About 70 women from Edmonton and district attended the tea. They heard a short address by Mrs. Schroeder, in which she outlined some of the work done by A.C.W.W. throughout the world. Tea convenor was Mrs. M. L. Stetson of Edmonton.

"The basic aim of A.C.W.W.,"

Mrs. Schroeder stressed, "is service to others. It is our wish to raise the living standards for all rural women."

Mrs. Schroeder quoted the motto of the members of A.C.W.W. in Australia, "Service by country women, for country women." We feel that through service, we can reach understanding, fellowship, and friendship, so that ultimately we will have a world at peace. A.C.W.W.W can set an example to the world. We have no discrimination as to color, race, or creed in our organization."

Mrs. Schroeder is a former school teacher who married a dairy farmer. She says that she can agree with modern views which suggest that women should not spend all their time in the home. "Women are the centre of home life, and homes are the basis of civilization. When women have interests outside the home, they and their families will tend to have a broader outlook."

MARCH 9 • 10 • 11

## ABOUT THE FUA's . . . PROVINCIAL BONSPIEL!

### DOUBLE KNOCK-OUT

### OPEN TO ONE ENTRY PER DISTRICT!

Each district is responsible for declaring an entry! Each Sub-district should be ready to help the District pick an entry. Each local should START NOW to plan ahead for Sub-district and District eliminations.

Committees either will be or already are, formed to look after details at the three levels of comptition. The Sportex Ice is ordered! So let's make the final better than ever.

AT THE  
SPORTEX  
IN  
EDMONTON

LET'S HAVE ENTRIES FROM EVERY DISTRICT THIS YEAR!